

SPOTLIGHT (FROM INSIDE)

with Navy Band audiences. It was a pleasure to work with such a wonderful group of musicians. **“home” again...**On September 23, 2003, I enlisted again in the Navy — exactly 10 years to the day from when I first signed on! **today...**Senior Chief Musician Wayne Taylor kept in touch with me throughout my adventures. When he told me about the pedal steel guitar opening, I realized I had been given a golden opportunity for a second time! I'm grateful to have had the chance to follow my dream and then to return to the joy of performing with “the world’s finest.” In the past decade Musicians First Class Frank Solivan, Joe Wheatley and Pat White have joined Senior Chief Musician Wayne Taylor and Chief Musicians Keith Arneson and John Emrich. Together, these incredible musicians inspire me to want to be an even better player who can make a real contribution to the organization.

ROAD (FROM FRONT PAGE)

my friends and spending time enjoying moments that will be treasured for a lifetime. I am a people person and for me, touring with the Sea Chanters allows me to exist in the best of all worlds.”

Musician First Class Michael A. Webb is the newest Sea Chanter and over the weeks leading up to his first tour, the Sea Chanters have had some rare and wonderful experiences. They recently sang at the White House and were a hit with such reviews as “...we never heard anything so wonderful” from President George W. Bush and Secretary of Defense, Donald H. Rumsfeld! Afterwards, fellow-musician and National Security Advisor, Condoleezza Rice sought

them out backstage to offer her appreciation and personal gratitude. “You were so musical, so perfect. It was a



The Side Boys take the audience back to the 50's with "The Best of Doo-Wop."

great joy to hear you. You made us feel ‘Wow!’” That “wow factor” has been a joy for Senior Chief Musician John R. Bury, former leader and frequent soloist. He shares his thoughts of what may be his last tour in “reflections from a tour roaddie.” “With great anticipation you spend

months in preparation of music, staging, repairs to equipment, and a (before you go) ‘honey do’ list at home.

The last week you polish the program, pack the truck, get the tour brief, pull out some money from the bank...and...you’re off and running! Before you know what hit you, you’re standing on a strange stage, singing music to strangers. Now the miracle of tour is this. Before the night is

over you’re not strangers anymore. In fact you are now the best of friends. Why? Because the power of music combined with patriotism bonds strangers together.”

We invite you to join in this bond of friendship. Please be sure to check their tour listing in this edition. *ff*

fanfare
DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

The United States Navy Band
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ON THE ROAD AGAIN

It’s that time of year when we take our music “on the road.” As we go to press, Captain Ralph M. Gambone leads The United States Navy Band in twenty-six performances on national

tours over the upcoming three years. He is very proud of his shipmates. Known for their wide variety of vocal music, the chorus draws upon the individual strengths of its members. Expertise ranges

from opera and art song to folk, Broadway, madrigals, country and spirituals. Any one of the musicians can impress the audience with solo capabilities

percussionist Musician First Class Curt R. Duer will take the spotlight with a xylophone solo.

Often featured in “Fair Winds” or “The High Seas,” Chief Musician Alison A. Turk has wonderful memories of all Sea Chanter tours since their first in 1988 when she was four months pregnant with her first child. She loves getting to know the personality of each area through meeting the audience members and exploring both the local cuisine and natural beauty. “The experience of singing for an audience who took the time to get a ticket



Musicians First Class Christina S. Phillips, Kristin A. Pagent and Beth E. Strittmatter do their best “Andrews Sisters” impersonation.

tour in the South Central area of our country. Initial reactions are quoted later in fanfare.

The operational plans for our national tours are conceived and put into action by a dedicated collateral duty force under the direction of Master Chief Musician Robert C. Snider. Tour Operations is TOPS! Each tour takes a year to set up, manage and execute.

We invite you “behind the scenes” as members of the “Sea Chanters” chorus prepare for their tour in March.

Senior Chief Musician Russell J. Rathier assumed the leadership of the Navy’s official chorus in August 2003. One of his first priorities was to address



Senior Chief Musician John R. Bury portrays Professor Harold Hill as the men of the Sea Chanters reenact the opening scene from “The Music Man.”

and then turn around and blend in as intricate harmonies, unified dynamic range and a great diversity in languages enthrall the same listeners. In addition to the many specialty groups featured on tour,

and come to a concert just to hear the group is absolutely the most rewarding thing about touring. The thrill of performing in some wonderful facilities is very musically and professionally fulfilling. I love being with

(SEE ROAD, BACK PAGE)

Performance Calendar

The U.S. Navy Band and specialty groups present the following FREE concerts. Tickets or reservations are not required unless noted (*). For more information call (202) 433-2525.

MARCH NAVY BAND

SATURDAY, MARCH 13, 7:30 PM.

James Madison High School
2500 James Madison Dr.
Vienna, Va.
SATURDAY, MARCH 20, 8 PM*
Grace E. Metz Middle School
9700 Fairview Ave.
Manassas, Va.
For FREE ticket information call (703) 361-6599.

COUNTRY CURRENT

FRIDAY, MARCH 12, 7 PM.

St. John’s United Methodist Church
5312 Backlick Rd.
Springfield, Va.

THURSDAY, MARCH 25, 7 PM.

Navy Museum (Bldg. 76)
Washington Navy Yard
Washington, D.C.
*For FREE reservations call (202) 433-6897.

HARPIST

SUNDAY, MARCH 21, 1:30 PM.

White House Visitor Center
1450 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W.
Washington, D.C.

APRIL

NAVY BAND

SATURDAY, APRIL 24, 7:30 PM.

Bishop Ireton High School
Garwood Whaley Auditorium
201 Cambridge Rd.
Alexandria, Va.

SEA CHANTERS

SUNDAY, APRIL 18, 4 PM.

Metropolitan Memorial United Methodist Church
3401 Nebraska Ave.
Washington, D.C.

COMMODORES

FRIDAY, APRIL 2, 7:15 PM.

“2nd Annual Jazz Festival”
Loudis Recital Hall
Amy E. du Pont Music Building
University of Delaware
Amstel Ave. and Orchard Rd.
Newark, Del.

SATURDAY, APRIL 24, 3 PM.

Chopticon High School
25390 Coltons Point Rd.
Morganza, Md.

THURSDAY, APRIL 29, 7:30 PM.

Fallston High School
2301 Cars Mill Rd.
Fallston, Md.

COUNTRY CURRENT

SATURDAY, APRIL 3, NOON

“Blessing of the Fleet”
Navy Memorial
701 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W.
Washington, D.C.

CRUISERS

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 28, NOON

“Earth Day Celebration”
Navy Memorial
701 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W.
Washington, D.C.

CEREMONIAL BAND

SATURDAY, APRIL 3, 1 PM.

“Blessing of the Fleet”
Navy Memorial
701 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W.
Washington, D.C.

SATURDAY, APRIL 10, 5 PM.

“Cherry Blossom Festival”
Southwest Waterfront at the Gangplank Marina
600 Water St., S.W.
Washington, D.C.

LOOKING AHEAD TO MAY

NAVY BAND

SATURDAY, MAY 1, 7:30 PM.

Thomas A. Edison High School
5801 Franconia Rd.
Alexandria, Va.

SATURDAY, MAY 8, 8 PM.

North County High School
10 East First Ave.
Glen Burnie, Md.

FRIDAY, MAY 14, 8 PM.

Maryland Hall for the Creative Arts*
801 Chase St.
Annapolis, Md.
*For FREE ticket information call (410) 263-5544.

SEA CHANTERS 2004 SPRING TOUR

The “Sea Chanters” chorus departs March 15th on a 13-day tour through Arkansas, Tennessee and Virginia. The following is a list of tour performances.

MONDAY, MARCH 15, 7:30 PM.

Godwin High School Auditorium
Richmond, Va.

TUESDAY, MARCH 16, 8 PM.

Blacksburg High School Auditorium
Blacksburg, Va.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 17, 7:30 PM.

The Paramount Center for the Arts
Bristol, Va.

THURSDAY, MARCH 18, 7 PM.

Hendersonville Church of Christ
Hendersonville, Tenn.

FRIDAY, MARCH 19, 7:30 PM.

First United Methodist Church
Columbia, Tenn.

SATURDAY, MARCH 20, 7:30 PM.

Union City Civic Auditorium
Union City, Tenn.

SUNDAY, MARCH 21, 3 PM.

Arkansas State University
Center for the Arts
Newport, Ark.

TUESDAY, MARCH 23, 7 PM.

Trinity United Methodist Church
Little Rock, Ark.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 24, 7 PM.

Dickson Middle School Auditorium
Dickson, Tenn.

THURSDAY, MARCH 25, 7 PM.

Avery Trace Middle School
Auditorium
Cookeville, Tenn.

FRIDAY, MARCH 26, 7 PM.

Lee High School Auditorium
Jonesville, Va.

SATURDAY, MARCH 27, 7 PM.

Rex Theater
Galax, Va.

SUNDAY, MARCH 28, 3 PM.

Waynesboro High School
Waynesboro, Va.

CAPTAIN’S MESSAGE



Greetings from the men and women of your Navy Band! Since I will be on national tour with the Navy Band during the month of February, I am writing this column early to ensure its inclusion in the March/April edition.

The staff has completed its second move in six months to even more locations. Half the staff now resides with Field Support Activity (FSA) on the second deck of Building A-168 and Supply and part of the Public Affairs Office and storage rooms are located in Building A-47, the drill hall of the Ceremonial Guard. The move went well, and we were up and running in just a few days. We are delighted to be sharing these spaces with our new hosts. Special thanks to Mr. Victor Ackley, Director, Captain Linda Speed, Executive Officer, Commander Steve Challeen and the entire FSA staff for their assistance and support. We received a very warm welcome and look forward to our stay with them over the coming months. Thanks also to Commander Marshall Martin, Commanding Officer, Ceremonial Guard and Senior Chief Machinist Mate (SS) Gerald Konkol, Command Senior Chief, Ceremonial Guard, for allowing us to utilize part of their spaces in building A-47. The move would not have been possible without their support.

I recently had the opportunity to view the progress on the renovation of the Sail Loft. Due to some structural challenges there has been a slight setback in the date we can reoccupy our spaces and it looks as though we should be occupying our newly renovated spaces in December 2004. I can tell you that from what I have observed, the construction and layout of our new spaces will be magnificent!

Thank you again for your continued support. We appreciate it.

Ralph M. Gambone, Captain, USN
Officer in Charge/Leader

NOTABLE QUOTES

“I am a U. S. Navy veteran and just returned home from a Navy Band concert at the University of North Texas. I would like to go on record as stating that this was one of the finest concerts I’ve had the privilege to attend. Captain Gambone and the entire band did an excellent job of not only providing an outstanding concert, but of getting the community involved as well. The music selections covered the entire spectrum of human emotions – from lighthearted tunes to intense compositions like “Inchon.”

Gary Adams
Denton, Texas

“Thank you for coming to Dension Texas! This is the first time I’ve attended a Navy Band concert and I enjoyed it greatly. I am a music-lover, and I often go to symphony concerts. The Navy Band concert was a completely different experience though. You have the musicianship of a big-city symphony, combined with the pride, perfection, and demeanor of top graduates at a military academy. It was a very impressive performance, and I don’t think there’s anything like it in the usual performing arts circles. I don’t get misty very easily, but I was very touched and proud to be an American.”

Pamela Flaming
Denison, Texas

FEATURES/CONCERT HIGHLIGHTS

27TH INTERNATIONAL
SAXOPHONE SYMPOSIUM
A SUCCESS!

The photographs below capture some of the highlights of the 27th International Saxophone Symposium on January 9 and 10 at George Mason University in Fairfax, Va. This was a wonderful opportunity for The United States Navy Band to be associated with some of the top international and national saxophone artists in the world today. The symposium expands our musical horizons and associations with the international music community. The two-day event was a huge success and featured an opening concert by the Navy Band on Friday evening; a full day of recitals, clinics, instrument displays on Saturday; and a closing concert Saturday night by the “Commodores” jazz ensemble.



French saxophonist Jean-Pierre Baraglioli performs Astor Piazzolla's "Historie du Tango" with the Navy Band under the direction of Captain Ralph M. Gambone during the opening concert on Friday night.



American-born and internationally honored saxophonist, Eugene Rousseau, performs Bernhard Heiden's "Diversion for Alto Saxophone and Band" with the Navy Band conducted by Captain Ralph M. Gambone.



The Navy Band's own Senior Chief Musician Timothy E. Roberts, alto saxophone, and Musician First Class Emily J. Dickson, harp, perform Gabriel Piere's "Canzonetta" as part of the Friday night concert.



Jazz saxophonist Jim Snidero performs with the Commodores on Saturday night's concert. He is featured here with the Commodores rhythm section, Senior Chief Musician Randy Mattson, director and string bass; and Musicians First Class Dan LaMaestra, piano and Gary Malvaso, guitar.

This year's event was well attended. The event reflected additional academic and collegiate participation as several university saxophone quartets performed at the symposium. Roughly 50 percent of the attendees came from out-of-town, from around the country and Canada. Be sure to mark January 7 and 8, 2005 on your calendar for next year's 28th International Saxophone Symposium. *ff*

WELCOME ABOARD TO...



ENS Evans

Ensign T. David Evans, who reports to the Navy Band as the Administrative Officer. Ensign Evans comes to the Navy Band after receiving his commission in August 2003. The Navy Band takes pleasure in welcoming Ensign Evans and his wife Kristina...and to **Musicians First Class Jon F. Agazzi**, clarinetist with the Navy Band, **Andraé L. Alexander**, keyboardist with the Cruisers, **Brad M. Corbin**, pedal steel guitarist with Country Current, **Michael A. Webb**, bass vocalist with the Sea Chanters and **Thomas C. Wheeler**, French hornist with the Navy Band.

CONGRATULATIONS TO...

Musician First Class William C. Mulligan, saxophonist with the Commodores on his selection as “Sailor of the Year” for 2003...and to **Chief Musician Christopher W. Erbe**,



MUC Erbe

trumpeter with the Navy Band, on his selection as “Chief of the Quarter”...and to **Musician First Class William P. Gray**, operations assistant on his selection as “Sailor of the Quarter” for the period October-December 2003...and to **Chief Musician S. Joe Dollard**, euphonium instrumentalist with the Navy Band, on his selection as “Chief of the Quarter”...and to



MUC Dollard

Musician First Class Edward Daryl Duff, bass vocalist with the Sea Chanters on his selection as “Sailor of the Quarter” for the period July-September 2003...and to **Senior Chief Musician Elizabeth A. Carroll** and **Chief Musicians Philip M. Burlin, Christopher W. Erbe, Nikki J. Hecker** and **Stephanie A. Rowland** on receiving the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal...and to **Chief Musician Eric D. Moore** and **Musicians First Class Greta L. Loggins, Stephanie M. Longoria** and **William C. Mulligan** on receiving the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal.

CONGRATULATIONS & FAREWELL TO...

Master Chief Musicians Chuck Yates, Concert Narrator of the Navy Band, who received the Meritorious Service Medal on the occasion of his retirement after 26 years of service and **Harvey Coonin**, trombonist with the Commodores, who received the Meritorious Service Medal on the occasion of his retirement after 27 years of service.

SPOTLIGHT ON...



Welcome back, Brad! **Musician First Class Brad M. Corbin** has returned to duty with the “Country Current” country-bluegrass group as their ever-popular pedal steel guitarist. He first entered the Navy in September 1987. After basic training in Orlando, Fla., he reported to The United States Navy Band where he served with Country Current until December 1993, when he left to follow his dreams in Nashville, Tenn., home of country music. After a decade with some of Nashville's finest, he returns to the Country Current as a highly polished and seasoned performer. **background...**I was born May 1, 1966 in Alexandria and grew up in Stanley, Va. where my parents introduced me to music in local churches. I played guitar and mandolin from the age of 11, frequently backing up my mother in hymns and inspirational songs such as “Amazing Grace” and “Sweet Hour of Prayer.” I discovered country music on the radio. Buddy Charlton, of the Ernest Tubb Band, introduced me to the pedal steel guitar in 1984 after my graduation from Page County High School in Shenandoah, Va. I loved it and studied with him for the next 10 years. After three years of studies with him, I auditioned for Country Current and joined one of the finest groups of musicians I could ever hope to meet. **first enlistment...**I had the honor of performing many times at the White House and participated in the 1989 inaugural. Memorable travels included going to Beijing, China in 1989 to entertain Chinese officials at a dinner hosted by President and Mrs. Bush and in 1992 to perform with the Navy Band as part of the Swedish Army Tattoo in Stockholm. We performed with Larry Gatlin and Vince Gil and at bluegrass festivals in North Carolina and in Grass Valley, Calif. **as a civilian...**My first post-Navy opportunity was “Nashville, USA” in Las Vegas. From 1995 to 1997, I worked with Chely Wright (“Single White Female” hit song), touring the USA and Japan. We opened for many artists such as George Strait, Alan Jackson and Tim McGraw. I returned to Virginia for the next three years and worked for R&L Productions in studio work and various entertainments throughout the state. My debut with “Lonestar” was filled with international drama. I flew to Ireland to join them on tour and naturally, I wanted to make a good impression. Upon landing, I went to baggage claim and discovered that my preamp had been damaged beyond repair. The local music store sent a substitute for that first night. It was a nightmare, but the generosity of an Irish counterpart who loaned me his equipment assured success for the rest of the tour. After the second performance, I was invited to be a permanent member of this very popular group. Lonestar's “Amazed” was the number one hit on both pop and country charts for nine weeks. In fact, they've had nine No. 1 singles, a triple platinum album, double platinum and two gold albums. Their hit, “Already There” has been very popular

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Visit us on the web at www.navyband.navy.mil

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